

## EURASLIC REPORT TO IAMSLIC 1998-1999

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EURASLIC President

European Association of Aquatic Science Libraries and Information Centres (EURASLIC) is in the inter-sessional period between two conferences, and Board and individual members are working to implement the tasks agreed at the last conference which was held at the National Centre for Marine Research (NCMR), Athens, Greece, in May 1998. At the same time much progress is being made with organising the next conference which is to be held in Aberdeen, Scotland in May 2000.

I would like to mention some of the inter-sessional tasks and objectives, and the progress that has been made.

### **1. EURASLIC Website: <http://atlantis.fl.ncmr.gr/euraslic>**

The EURASLIC Website has been moved and is now hosted by National Centre for Marine Research (NCMR), Greece, and NCMR Library staff have taken over responsibility for maintaining the site, which has been updated with many additional links to relevant information sources.

### **2. EURASLIC Internet Discussion List: [euraslic@machno.bbistuttgart.de](mailto:euraslic@machno.bbistuttgart.de)**

A discussion list has been established for EURASLIC Members, and is regularly being used to facilitate requests for publications, to advertise duplicates, to exchange expertise, and to notify members of issues related to EURASLIC and aquatic science information provision in Europe.

### **3. EURASLIC Newsletter**

The Newsletter was redesigned to incorporate the EURASLIC logo, with two issues each year being distributed in March and October.

### **4. EURASLIC Leaflet**

A new information leaflet has been designed and issued.

### **5. EURASLIC Directory of Aquatic Libraries and Information Centres**

The EURASLIC Directory has been updated thanks to the efforts of Peter Pissierssens (IOC, Paris), with the cooperation of NCMR Library staff who took on the task of updating the records of those libraries that had no access to the Internet. The Directory, which now contains 527 records, is accessible through the EURASLIC Website as well as through the IOC Webserver.

#### **6. European Directory of Marine Research Resources (Eudir)**

EURASLIC members have been encouraged to submit records to EUDIR which is a component of GLODIR. The Greek model, which developed two versions of the Greek Directory: one in English (for GLODIR) and one in Greek (for local use), has been offered to members as an example giving a strong motive for them to maintain an inhouse directory database.

#### **7. EURASLIC National Representatives**

The EURASLIC Board is revising its guidelines for National Representatives, with a view to clarifying their roles and responsibilities, and to prepare a new list of EURASLIC National Representatives.

#### **8. EURASLIC Membership Directory**

EURASLIC has published its first Membership Directory, which has been distributed to all EURASLIC members.

### **EURASLIC INITIATIVES**

#### **9. Training**

EURASLIC is interested in pursuing involvement in a training program on aquatic sciences information. Board members are in contact with Paul Nieuwenhuysen (University of Brussels) who is planning to organise an international training course in Belgium in 2000. The course will be aimed at information professionals in the area of water-related science and technology

#### **10. Baltic Sea Bibliography**

EURASLIC has sent a letter of protest to the Baltic Marine Environmental Protection Commission, against the decision to terminate the "Baltic Marine Environment Bibliography" due lack of funds. This valuable tool is an example of regional cooperation in information sharing, being the outcome of extensive cooperative effort in networking and resource sharing in the Baltic Sea Libraries.

#### **11. Ariel software**

Negotiations with RLG Company have been made so that EURASLIC Members will be able to obtain the Ariel full version software at a reduced price.

## **EURASLIC PARTICIPATION**

### **12. Universe Project**

UNIVERSE Project which was funded by the European Commission and was completed the end of September was a large scale project, based on the concept of a virtual union catalogue for libraries, making distributed information resources accessible for searching, retrieving, requesting and delivery in an integrated environment. The environmental group of the above project focused on aquatic environment. Seven European aquatic libraries, members of EURASLIC have been involved. We found the experience useful because this is the environment in which we are all going to operate in the future.

### **13. GEMIM Committee**

The EURASLIC President attended the GEMIM (IOC Group of Experts on Marine Information Management) meeting which took place in Silver Spring, Maryland, USA, from 31 of May to 3<sup>rd</sup> of June 1999.

## **THE FUTURE**

### **14. Primary goals of EURASLIC**

EURASLIC will move towards to increase the membership and support a training programme for the membership particularly for the Eastern European Countries.

### **15. Aberdeen Conference**

We are now looking forward to the 8th meeting and conference of EURASLIC which will be held in Aberdeen, Scotland in May 2000. Sarah Heath of the Fisheries Research Services Laboratory is busy making the local arrangements and organising the program and funding, with help from Pauline Simpson and other EURASLIC members. Any IAMSILIC members who wish to attend will be welcome, and should contact Sarah Heath for further information.

Finally, it is my great pleasure on behalf of EURASLIC to offer our sincere congratulations to IAMSILIC on attaining its twenty-fifth year, and to look forward to the next twenty-five years.

